power Purchase Agreement (PPAs) with the Central Public Sector Undertaking concerned.

Barak Dam Project of Assam

855. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of Barak Dam Project of Assam;

(b) whether Government are aware that this project has got the approval of the Standing Committee on Energy; and

(c) if so, the details of reasons for not sanctioning/approving the project as it has already been cleared by the Standing Committee?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The Tipaimukh Hydro Electric Multipurpose Project (1500 MW) on river Barak in Manipur was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance by the Central Electricity Authority on 02.07.2003 at an estimated cost of Rs. 5163.86 crores including IDC at December, 2002 price level.

(b) The Standing Committee on Energy has recommended to exclude the expenses on security, flood modernization and road from the project cost so as to make the tariff viable. Also as benefits from flood modernization, construction of road, etc. are to be shared by the State Governments, funds released for flood control and construction of roads by respective Ministries should be infused in these projects.

(c) Steps have been initiated to bring down the tariff to make it commercially viable and saleable after adding the transmission costs as the power would need to be wheeled out of the N.E. Region, in line with the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Energy. In the meantime, NEEPCO has recently been asked to complete the field studies for the project at site including updating the DPR data.

Implemention of the Power Project of NTPC

856. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NTPC is unable to implement a number of its projects in various locations on account of litigations;

(b) if so, the details in this regard with details of the NTPC projects held up on account of litigations, State-wise;

(c) what measures are being contemplated to expedite implementation of the projects; and

(d) whether setting up fast track courts to resolve the land disputes is one of the options?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of answer at (a) above.

Sale of Dabhol Power Project

857. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government is mediating in the sale of Dabhol Power Company;

(b) if so, the details of the DPC project, the parties to the project with their financial stake in the project; and

(c) the break-up of the total financial implication to the Government on account of this project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) As per the information given by the Ministry of Finance, although the Government of India (GoI) is not directly involved in the Dabhol power project, it has been trying to facilitate a dialogue between the various stakeholders with an aim to find a framework for settlement of the various disputes.

(b) The Dabhol power project is a 2184 MW gas based power project located in Maharashtra. The main promoters of the project were M/s. Enron Corporation, USA, with 65% equity, M/s. GE, USA with 10% equity, M/s. Bechtel, USA, with 10% equity and the Maharashtra Power Development Corporation Limited, a subsidiary of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board with 15% equity. The total equity invested in the project was approximately US$ 940 million.

(c) The financial implications of the GoI is not accurately available at this state. It includes, apart from guarantees issued by GoI, charges due to interest, penalties, expropiration and other compensation claims. The total legal claims on GoI are to the tune of US$ 5.2 billion. However, these claims are sub-judice and are not necessarily admissible or even admitted by GoI.